



## **ALIAMANU/ SALT LAKE/ FOSTER VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 18**

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2006**

### **ALIAMANU MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Grant Tanimoto called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with a quorum present. He welcomed everyone to the Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board No. 18 meeting and mentioned that the Board tries to start on time and end by 9:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Grant Tanimoto, Len Pepper, Minnie Brazell, Steve Glanstein, Lorene Godfrey, Mark Taylor and David Yomes.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Larry Baird and Richard Larson.

**GUESTS:** Antonio "Tony" Bacani (Representative Lynn Finnegan's Office staff), Dana Takahara-Dias (Deputy Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative), Hiroko Nakamura (Councilmember Romy Cachola's Office staff), Lt. Lester Hite (Honolulu Police Department- Kalihi); Lt. Grant Arakawa and Sgt. Roland Ohata (Honolulu Police Department- Pearl City); Captain John Young (Honolulu Fire Department), Thomas J. Strout (Board of Water Supply), Clyde Shimizu and Pat Lee (Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP)), Robin Martin (Moanalua High School), Roger C. Yang (homeowner), Jim Waters Howard Shima, Suzette Adversalo, Lynda and Janet Takamoto, Ann Butay, Steven Y. Onoue (MVCA), Arturo Williams (Resident Manager), and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

### **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:**

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)-** Captain John Young (Mokulele and Moanalua stations) highlighted the following:

1. From March 13 to April 13, 2006 there were 11 fires, 78 EMS/rescue, 23 hazardous conditions, 3 service calls, 25 good intent, and 5 false calls, for a total of 145 calls for service.
2. Fire Safety Tip: Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and the second major cause of death among older adults. If you are cooking and must leave the kitchen, even only for a few minutes, turn off the stove. Keep a fire extinguisher (with a minimum rating of 2A10BC) in or near your kitchen and learn how to use it. Inspect the extinguisher regularly to ensure that it has not expired.
3. He left some brochures for seniors about fire safety in the homes. Be especially careful about unattended cooking on electrical stoves.

Comments followed.

1. Vice Chair Len Pepper mentioned that according to Councilmember Romy Cachola's newsletter, the Opticom system was operational on Salt Lake Boulevard. The various agencies have to program their transmitters to their assigned identification numbers. Captain Young replied that as far as he knows, it is not working yet. Vice Chair Pepper asked Captain Young to follow up and report back next month.
2. Resident Howard Shima said he asked for the last three meetings about the status of the elderly couple on Ala Lehua Street. Did they survive and were they hospitalized? What about the clean up of the debris? Captain Young mentioned that they went to the hospital, but due to privacy laws, he had no further information. HFD would monitor the area for health hazards.
3. When Chair Tanimoto asked Hiroko Nakamura from Councilmember Cachola's office when was the last time she talked to DTS about the Opticom system, she replied April 4. Chair Tanimoto asked Nakamura and Mayor's representative Dana Takahara-Dias to follow up. Vice Chair Pepper added that it was a

health and safety issue and the community needs it operational as soon as possible for all emergency services.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Captain Young.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD)-** Lt. Lester Hite, Kalihi Station, distributed a written report and highlighted the following:

1. The monthly statistics for March 2006 for Kalihi-District 5 were arguments- 62, assaults- 7, burglaries- 6, drugs/narcotics cases- 7, DUI- 8, family offenses- 13, harassments- 9, liquor law- 1, miscellaneous public cases- 35, miscellaneous service calls- 164, motor vehicle thefts- 31, motor vehicle collisions- 119, nuisance complaints- 30, parking violations- 96, property damage cases- 19, robberies- 2, sex offenses- 0, suspicious circumstances- 54, thefts- 47, unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV)- 26 and towed vehicles- 28 for a total of 764 offenses for district beats 550, 551, 552 and 554.
2. Miscellaneous service calls were up 33 and motor vehicle collisions were up 35, mostly weather-related.
3. There were several graffiti arrests. One was by Officer Jason Bolton. Four juveniles sprayed a City bus on Puuloa Road. It was called in quickly and Sgt. Kevin Nishida was able to catch them. The other one was in the drainage canal by Salt Lake Elementary School. One student was artistic, but one was disrespectful to his mom. When Board member Taylor asked if they were from this area, five were from Salt Lake, one from Halawa.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

Resident Shima, Graffiti Task Force, commented that in the last 10 years the graffiti has gotten bad. Lt. Hite mentioned that the Crime Reduction Unit is working with the community. One parent provided the child's "artwork" to make the cases. HPD is stepping up its efforts. Shima mentioned that 20 or 30 people are identified and many are adults. Lt. Hite commented that there is a need for more community involvement to report the crimes as they are happening. Resident Tom Strout mentioned that on Nimitz Highway every post has graffiti.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Lt. Hite.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD)(continued)-** Sgt. Roland Ohata, Pearl City Station, distributed his report and highlighted the following:

1. The monthly statistics for January 2006/February 2006/March 2006 for Beat 384 (Foster Village Neighborhood Security Watch) for the highlighted offenses were: auto thefts- 10/7/9, auto theft recoveries- 3/10/9, burglaries- 3/5/2, criminal property damage cases- 3/6/4 and unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV)- 5/7/11. For January 2006/February 2006/March 2006 there were 454/387/415 calls for Beat 384 (Foster Village) of the 7,451/6,684/7,054 calls for District 3 (Kunia/Pearl City/Foster Village) or 6.09 percent/5.79 percent/5.88 percent of calls.

On page two, there were listed the date, time and location of 2 burglaries, 9 motor vehicle thefts, 8 auto theft recoveries and 11 UEMV.

2. Tip- Concerning the increase in UEMV, don't leave property in car in plain view. The theft can just look in and break in. Put in trunk or cover it.

There were no questions.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Sgt. Ohata.

**PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS** (from the public)-

There were none.

**APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 9, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:** The following corrections were made to the March 9, 2006 regular meeting minutes-

Page 7, right before the vote on the proposed antenna facility, it should read, "Board member Taylor mentioned that while in the past, the Board has supported facilities on commercially-zoned property, this property is zoned for residential use."

Page 7, in the middle, it should read, "The representative presented Nextel's proposed project on residential property, zoned R-5, located at 1000 Luapele Drive, TMK (1) 9-9-048:098."

Page 9, under **Councilmember Romy Cachola-**, "1. The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) is supposed to come to the Board before changing parking, but they haven't in several cases." should be deleted from the minutes.

The March 9, 2006 regular meeting minutes were accepted as corrected.

**ELECTION OF TREASURER AND TREASURER'S REPORT:** Board member Mark Taylor nominated Minnie Brazell for Treasurer. Although a second is not required, Vice Chair Pepper seconded the nomination. As there were no other nominations, Minnie Brazell was elected Treasurer by acclamation.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS: CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS**

There were none.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Community Relations-** Committee Chair Brazell reported that the Board members received the draft of the newsletter and it looks good.

**Traffic and Transportation-** No report.

**Parks-** Committee Chair Lorene Godfrey had no report.

**Environment-** No report.

**Education-** Committee Chair Taylor had no report, but mentioned that the Moanalua Performing Arts Center would be having a presentation later on the agenda. When Vice Chair Pepper asked if the Moanalua High School principal would be attending the May meeting, Taylor replied that he invited him, but had not received confirmation.

**Public Safety-** No report.

#### **Residents' Concerns-**

1. Resident Ann Butay lives on Maluna Street, near Wanaka Street. She wanted to report a gray company truck as an abandoned vehicle. She has had three collisions while backing out of her driveway, because drivers cannot see her. She is concerned about the safety of her child. Also, there is a boat behind the truck. She has complained to the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) and the abandoned vehicles department. HPD issues citations, but the truck hasn't been towed yet. Vice Chair Pepper mentioned that there was a new ordinance that allowed for towing if the vehicle had expired registration or safety check. Butay also mentioned that the neighbor parks the truck there because there is no parking in the area. Across the street there is a person doing auto repairs and he parks the cars on the street. Board member David Yomes, the Chair of the Public Safety Committee and an active-duty police officer, mentioned that the City and the State have no storage space. Abandoned vehicles come under the

Department of Customer Services, Motor Vehicle Branch. Yomes would follow up with HPD. Vice Chair Pepper asked what is the City's procedure or plan on storing towed and abandoned vehicles? What is the length of storage, what happens to unclaimed cars? Board member Lorene Godfrey suggested that she write a letter. Resident Shima mentioned that two abandoned vehicles were removed on Ala Laulani Street and on Ala Napuanani Street.

2. Resident Shima shared his concerns about graffiti. There should be a two-pronged approach- education and enforcement. We must get the City Council, plus the State Legislature and the Department of Education (DOE). Board member Brazell mentioned that the sixth grade at Makalapa Elementary School was concerned about graffiti at their school. They see the older kids do it, so they copy.

Board member Yomes reported that on Kamehameha Highway or on Nimitz Highway, every pillar has graffiti. The community has to get involved and report the crime. The courts don't want to penalize the parents with a financial burden. Shima suggested that the community should put pressure on the politicians and judges to support the HPD graffiti task force.

Board member and Environment Committee Chair Steve Glanstein suggested that the courts sentence community service in the violator's district.

3. Resident Tom Strout asked about the banners and signs going up on the corner. Board member Brazell responded that one was her banner for the school and another was a non-profit group. Strout heard from a neighbor that the elderly couple went to care home. The neighbor didn't know their insurance company to get money for smoke damages. Vice Chair Pepper suggested getting it from her insurance company and let them worry about recovering from the couple's insurance company.
4. Someone showed a picture, taken on March 17, at Maluna Street and Wanaka Street of a leaning telephone pole. He called the telephone company, but nothing has been done. Board member Yomes would follow up.
5. A Korean man and a resident requested a "no parking" sign at the Greenview condo at Likini Street and Ala Napuanani Street, mauka side roundabout. Chair Tanimoto referred this to Transportation Committee Chair Larry Baird.
6. A resident reported that about a month ago at the Foster Village roundabout, a truck jumped the curb. He asked who was responsible to maintain it?

He also mentioned potholes on Bougainville Road, leading to Haloa Street and the entrance to Foster Village. The Navy Commissary had heavy traffic. Chair Tanimoto referred this to Transportation Committee Chair Baird.

Chair Tanimoto thanked the people for sharing their concerns.

#### **PRESENTATIONS: DISCUSSION/ACTION- (8:04 p.m.)**

**Moanalua High School Performing Arts Center-** Robin Martin, Vice Principal, Moanalua High School presented drawings of the proposed project and reported that they needed more space for their annual concerts. Their "Aloha Concert" is held at the Neal Blaisdell Center. There is a high cost for transporting the instruments and students. They proposed to build the Performing Arts Center on the area near the ball field, where the portable classrooms are now. There would be 700 people on the main level and 300 people in the balcony.

When Board member Mark Taylor asked about funding in the Legislature, Martin replied it is the number one priority for the Moanalua High School principal.

When Board member Glanstein asked about the specifics in the Legislature, Martin replied that unfortunately, they were supposed to meet with the Legislature, but were rained out. It would be available to non-profits. The \$1 million for parking is still in the budget.

Resident Shima mentioned holding concerts at Farrington High School or Castle High School. Vice Chair Pepper mentioned needs on Kauai and that he opposed the motion. Board member Yomes was in favor. Board member Glanstein was in favor.

**Board member Mark Taylor moved and Board member Minnie Brazell seconded that the Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board No. 18 supports the construction of the Moanalua High School Performing Arts Center and that this sentiment be conveyed to the Hawaii State Legislators. The motion carried, 6-1-0. Vice Chair Pepper voted "No."**

**Transit Project Presentation-** (8:25 p.m.) Clyde Shimizu, a civil engineer presented a slideshow. Alternative #1 (in brochure) was the "no build" alternative. Alternative #2 was "low capital." Alternative #3 was the "elevated two-lane and managed lanes." Alternative #4 was fixed "rail" system and ground level and tunnel. They had many scoping meetings to discuss routes to Downtown and the University of Hawaii at Manoa. They have to do all the required environmental studies.

Question, answers and comments followed.

Vice Chair Pepper mentioned that the Board supports a route along Salt Lake area with a spur to the airport. Board member Taylor mentioned that early on Catlin Drive (U.S. Navy property) was eliminated. There are 35,000 people in the District, 25,000 within walking distance. Salt Lake to the airport would help a lot of people. Board member Glanstein suggested a "park and ride" and walk a half-mile. Shimizu replied that the airport route did not have enough people. He cited prior studies in 1982 and 1992. They would need room for adding trains. When resident Shima asked when would be the final vote, Shimizu replied that the City Council would vote in December 2006. Board member Yomes made a motion, but it died for lack of a second.

**Board member Taylor moved and Vice Chair Pepper seconded that the Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board No. 18 supports the alignment of the proposed "rail" system through Salt Lake Boulevard and to convey this to the Mayor Mufi Hannemann and the City Council. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0-0.**

Pat Lee offered to come back and make monthly updates and presentations to other community associations.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Shimizu and Lee for the presentation.

**Aliamanu Sewage Spill-** Mayor's representative Dana Takahara-Dias reported that there was a wastewater spill on March 31 at the Aliamanu Waste Water Pumping Station #1 & #2. The first one spilled 8,000 gallons of sewage into the storm drains and the second one spilled 8,600 gallons. The review of what happened is set for July 26. The planned remedial construction is for 2008 and to be completed 2010. Vice Chair Pepper mentioned illegally discharged rainwater into the sewage system. He asked if the area was decontaminated

**Aligning Board's priorities with agenda items and projects-** (8:34 p.m.) Vice Chair Pepper proposed the following priorities.

Priorities for Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board No. 18 for June 2006 to May 2007-

1. Advocate for rapid completion of the remaining sections of Salt Lake Boulevard and improvement in the appearance of the entire Boulevard with appropriate landscaping and underground utilities.
2. Work with schools, businesses, churches, military organizations, and individuals to increase involvement in community life.
3. Find ways to increase community involvement in Board meetings and activities.
4. Advocate for continuing public access to Moanalua Gardens.
5. Advocate for improved disaster, crisis and emergency preparedness and services.
6. Provide information and input on mass transit.
7. Assist public and private response to bird flu.
8. Continue to provide input about parking issues in the community.

(Board member Taylor amended 1. to include "with appropriate landscaping and underground utilities.")

**Vice Chair Pepper moved and Board member Taylor seconded that the Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board No. 18 adopt the 2006-2007 priorities with amendments. The motion carried unanimously 7-0-0.**

**BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY (BWS)-** (9:02 p.m.) Thomas Strout reported the following:

1. There were no main breaks in March.
2. **GENERAL WATER ANNOUNCEMENTS:** With the recent heavy rains, some of you may have some questions about how or if they have affected our water supply. Hopefully this information will give you some insight.
  - A. When it rains heavily, our pumpage drops because people don't water their lawns, wash their cars, or do other heavy water consumption outdoor activities. (ex: as of March 8<sup>th</sup>, we were pumping 127.28 million gallons per day (mgd), down from last year 's 146.43 mgd).
  - B. While this can briefly cause water levels to rise, this does not indicate that there is more water in the aquifer, only that we are pumping less water from them. Usually, when the rain ends, the aquifer levels will go back to regular levels as pumpage rises to accommodate people resuming the activities they put off while inclement weather was occurring.
  - C. During heavy rains, there is always considerable runoff that occurs. Despite the runoff, rainy weather helps maximize the amount of rainfall available for aquifer recharge.
  - D. Winter and spring rains help to balance out the dry months we expect in the summer.
  - E. We should continue to be mindful of water use even during periods like these as the effects from them will not be immediately evident.
3. **Water conservation tip:** The height at which you mow your lawn can have a direct effect on how much and how often you water it. Make sure you know what the correct height is for the type of grass you have on your lawn.

Leaving grass cuttings on your lawn can help soil retain moisture naturally.

There were no questions.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Strout for his report.

Vice Chair Pepper moved for a twenty-minute extension.

**Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative-** (9:05 p.m.) Dana Takahara-Dias distributed the Mayor's newsletter and reported the following:

1. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has an open position for Park Director at Salt Lake District Park. They should fill it by the end of the month.
2. Concerning the 38 new parking spaces, the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) replied, "We are conducting an investigation regarding Mr. Yomes' parking proposal on Likini Street and Ala Ilima. We will inform the Neighborhood Board of our findings by the June 2006 board meeting. Should you have any questions, please contact Alton Mitsuyuki at 523-4721.
3. Concerning the parking ban at 4918 Likini Street, the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) replied, "We completed our investigation, which included a site check and a review of the area's accident history and found that a parking restriction in the vicinity of 4918 Likini Street is not justified at this time. We would further consider this request if a strong majority of (90 percent or more) of the directly affected property owner(s) at 4918 Likini Street support the proposed parking restriction. Once the necessary signature(s) have been obtained, the petition should be submitted to the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) through the Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board. While support of the neighborhood board does not guarantee that the requested changes will be implemented, we find it the

best forum for neighbors to express their viewpoints regarding parking issues. Should you have any questions, please contact Alton Mitsuyuki at 523-4721.

4. Someone mentioned a rockslide on Hulakui Drive. Attached are photos of the Hulakui Street location. As the photos show the area is at the rear of 1071 Maluna Street where a portion of a wall and soil slid. The property owner was informed it is his responsibility to remove the material and he has acknowledged that. The roadway itself was cleared soon after the slide that occurred months ago. They suggest that this issue be referred to Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) for possible citation.
5. Removal of steel plate and temporary paving will be done on March 15, 2006. The bids for the final paving will be submitted on March 14, 2006. Final paving will be completed after bid process is complete, which will be approximately 1 1/2 months, around June 1, 2006.
6. The City has been working with the Salt Lake community on the bulky item pick up procedures.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. Board member Yomes still believes that there should be no parking at 4918 Likini Street. He doesn't think the residents would vote the 90 percent rule. The public's safety outweighs the few residents parking.
2. Vice Chair Pepper mentioned that the community has been waiting over a year for the use of the ball field at the Salt Lake District Park. Takahara-Dias mentioned an August target date. The City has not accepted the project from the contractor yet.

Hiroko Nakamura wrote a letter. The problem is that after the project is finished, the grass has to grow to cover, which may take another 90 days. Vice Chair Pepper expressed his concerns that the government seems to be responsive to its bureaucratic rules, rather than to the public.

3. The Board would like to invite a Department of Transportation Services (DTS) representative to address and explain parking restriction philosophy. Parking is at a premium in the Salt Lake area.

Chair Tanimoto thanked the Mayor's representative Takahara-Dias.

**Councilmember Romy Cachola-** (9:18 p.m.) Hiroko Nakamura distributed Councilmember Cachola's newsletter and highlighted the following:

The Budget Committee will be meeting on Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

There were no questions.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Councilmember Cachola's representative Nakamura.

**Governor Linda Lingle's representative-** No representative present.

**Senator Norman Sakamoto-** Senator Sakamoto's newsletter was distributed.

**Representative Lynn Finnegan-** Antonio "Tony" Bacami from Representative Finnegan's office distributed her newsletter and was available to take community concerns.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Representative Finnegan's staff person Bacami.

**Representative Glenn Wakai-** No representative was present.

**DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

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1. Park closing hours– Honolulu Police Department (HPD) suggested 9:30 p.m. for Aliamanu. Board member Yomes mentioned that when juveniles arrested, nothing happens. Adults get a citation. This item was deferred to the next meeting.
2. The Moanalua High School and Radford High School Principals would be invited to the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hearing no objections, Chair Tanimoto adjourned the meeting at 9:24 p.m.

Submitted by K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant